GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:58
ANSWERED ON:22.11.2006
PRIVATE SECTOR COMPANIES IN TELECOM SECTOR
Bishnoi Shri Jaswant Singh

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Private Sector Companies in Telecom Sector functioning in the country especially in Rajasthan;

(b) whether the Private Sector Companies in Telecom Sector are violating the terms of agreement signed with the Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof, company-wise; and

(d) the action taken/being taken against those companies?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

(a) 113 licences have been issued to 24 Private Sector companies in Telecom sector in the country for providing Unified Access Services (UAS) and Cellular Mobile Telecom Services (CMTS). 6 private UAS/CMTS licensees and 13 private Internet Service Providers are functioning in Rajasthan.

(b) to (d) Libralisation of Indian Telecom sector started in the year 1991 and a large number of licence have been issued to the private companies since. In the course of offering services over the last so many years by such a large number of licensees, there has been a number of instances of violation of terms and conditions of the licence agreement by private companies. Whenever such violations are noticed/ reported, show cause notice is issued after following the due procedure as per the provisions of the respective licence agreement. Based on the nature of violation and the reply to the show cause notice, action is taken against the licensees as per the provision in the licence agreements which include imposing financial penalties and/or termination of licence.

The action taken against the licensees includes issual of warning / direction, imposition of financial penalty and termination of licence.